

**JANUARY 1974**

**FOURTEENTH YEAR — No. 154**

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# **international review of the red cross**



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# INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

JANUARY 1974 – No. 154

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COMMITTEE OF  
THE RED CROSS

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**SUPPLEMENTS  
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**SPANISH**

XXII Conferencia Internacional de la Cruz Roja - Una publicación del Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja - Día Mundial de la Cruz Roja : « Da tu sangre... Salva una vida » - Índice - Vol. XXV (1973).

**GERMAN**

XXII. Internationale Rotkreuzkonferenz - Ein neuer Film des IKRK - Kolloquium über den seelsorgerischen und den geistigen Beistand in bewaffneten Konflikten und innerstaatlichen Wirren - Ein Kindergesundheitszentrum - Die Wahl fiel auf das Rote Kreuz... - Inhaltsverzeichnis - Band XXIV (1973).

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# THE XXII<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

## Post-Conference Thoughts

### Exemplary organization

The Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society certainly did things properly: not only did it organize to perfection the conference for seven hundred participants; it spared no effort to create an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. Incidentally, the Teheran conference centre is the equal of the official bodies of the international institutions; its staff is courteous, its hostesses efficient and charming, and the work is done smoothly and with a good grace.

Under the presidency of H.I.H. the Princess Chams Pahlavi, the Red Lion and Sun had done a fine job of preparation, for which the main responsibility was borne by H. E. Mr. Hossein Khatibi. The ICRC and League teams easily dovetailed into the whole system and proficiently discharged the essential functions devolving on them.

The meetings were held in the Majlis, the Parliament Building, with all necessary facilities and offices.

At the inauguration ceremony at the Opera, we were privileged to hear H.I.M. the Shahanshah Aryamehr deliver a speech full of wisdom and substance.<sup>1</sup>

H.E. Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda attended several meetings and delivered a message to the Conference closing session. At a magnificent reception in the Hilton, he greeted the Conference participants. A sumptuous dinner was offered by H.I.H. the

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<sup>1</sup> *International Review* published extracts last month, and others from speeches by Mr. Sharif-Emami, Lady Limerick, Dr. Eric Martin and Mr. José Barroso (*Ed.*).

Princess Chams Pahlavi, President of the Red Lion and Sun, while on another occasion the League and the ICRC invited all members to a cocktail in the Senate building. A word should also be said of the receptions organized by several embassies, the fully-booked excursions to Isfahan, a city of delightful charm, to Meched, a holy place of Islam, and to Persepolis whose ruins reveal Persia's privileged position as a meeting place of the great ancient civilizations.

In the course of the closing session, the ICRC President had the great privilege of announcing that the exchange of Israeli and Egyptian prisoners of war had begun, so that the Conference finished on a hopeful note. It certainly opened on an atmosphere of tension: the Middle East was plunged into war, and it had even been thought in some quarters that our international meeting would have to be called off. To do so would have been a mistake: the Red Cross must make itself heard, especially in conflicts and international tension.

## **Meetings**

After the Board of Governors and the Council of Delegates, the Conference met in plenary session under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Sharif-Emami, President of the Senate. It formed three commissions: the Commission on International Humanitarian Law, the General Commission, and the Commission on Community Services.

The Law Commission did good work. It usefully prepared for the Diplomatic Conference scheduled for February-March 1974 in Geneva, to discuss the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions.

The Commission on Community Services had recourse to a method which permitted a useful general discussion. It had prepared by working groups the following subjects: 1. Red Cross contribution to national development plans—community service (health, social work, youth); 2. the Red Cross and environment problems. Although it did not produce any new ideas, it did permit of a useful exchange of views among National Society representatives.

The General Commission devoted much of its time to discussions which were influenced by general political conditions. The introduction to the ICRC report, affirming the inviolability of the Conventions and their absolute character which admits of no conditional clauses and condemns bargaining, was applauded. In the discussions which followed, however, it was not always easy to have that principle confirmed in specific cases, in spite of its having been unanimously approved by the Commission. It is true that there was a noticeable desire prevailing in the meeting to be conciliatory and to remain true to the Red Cross principles, but often the underlying political tension prevented the passing of a truly satisfying resolution. As these discussions took no little time, the other agenda items—more specific to the Red Cross—unfortunately did not give rise to broad exchanges of views.

### **Remarks**

For a newly elected President of the ICRC it is difficult to form a well-grounded assessment of the usefulness of the Teheran Conference, as he has no standard of comparison. I may perhaps be permitted a few remarks nevertheless.

The duration of the Conference, eighteen days, seems too long. A fortnight should be enough. Participants were tired at the end of the session, which had lost some of its momentum.

Too much time was spent on elections; practical steps should be taken to shorten this procedure.

Too many subjects were discussed on several occasions by different organs. Valuable time was lost. Such repetition without any real purpose should be avoided.

No satisfactory understanding was reached on resolutions which should be better worded, shorter, and say only what is essential.

It may be difficult, but delegations should be given opportunities to exchange views and experience on Red Cross activities in such a way that the younger Societies may derive benefit from contact with those whose structure and tradition are strong. It is true that this occurs in regional meetings and in training courses organized by the League. Nevertheless, International Conferences could include on their agenda one or two items for discussion, introduced

by rapporteurs and about which views could be exchanged; one or more National Societies, for instance, could be appointed to present the chosen topics.

Less demanding meetings might permit informal contacts between delegates at less ceremonious receptions; talks would be possible on a more personal level.

From our Iranian friends we received particularly generous treatment. Some National Societies, bearing expense in mind, might hesitate to act as host to future Conferences. Could we not revert to a more simple standard?

In short, we must first thank the Iranian Red Lion and Sun for organizing, in difficult circumstances, an International Conference of the Red Cross which went off without a hitch, in an atmosphere of friendship, and which unquestionably produced worthwhile results. For the future, we must study how better to organize meetings and allocate subjects while shortening the session.

Everything should be done to maintain fully all Red Cross principles and the *raison d'être* of the International Conference of the Red Cross, now that it has become an international meeting like any other.

Eric MARTIN

President of the International Committee  
of the Red Cross

\* \* \*

## The work of the Commissions

### GENERAL COMMISSION

The Commission elected Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris (Australia) as chairman, Dr. Werner Ludwig (German Democratic Republic) and Dr. Stephen Moosai-Maharaj (Trinidad and Tobago) as vice-Chairmen, and Mr. Fok Fook Choon (Singapore) as rapporteur.

A report on action taken pursuant to resolutions of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross was approved, as was



the ICRC report on its activities since 1969. After consideration of the latter report, a resolution was passed supporting the ICRC's attitude and affirming the necessity of applying the Geneva Conventions in all circumstances without any conditions or demands which are alien to those Convention.

The Commission discussed the work of the ICRC, particularly in Chile and in the Middle East.

One resolution adopted appealed to all parties concerned to recognize their obligations in the occupied territories of the Middle East under the Fourth Geneva Convention. Another, on the treatment of prisoners of war in the Middle East, gave rise to high words. When the Commission proposed proceeding to the next item on its agenda, the ICRC President underlined how regrettable such a decision would be, with no satisfaction to anyone. The lengthy debate which followed seemed to suggest that no agreement could be reached on the draft resolution or on the proposed amendment. Fortunately, an alternative draft was adopted unanimously. It invited all parties to the Middle East conflict to ensure the full application of the Geneva Conventions, particularly those provisions concerning the treatment of prisoners of war, the wounded, the sick, and civilian victims.

Another unanimously adopted resolution stressed the necessity of accounting for persons reported missing and killed during armed conflicts.

In his presentation of the report of the League of Red Cross Societies for the period 1969 to 1973, Secretary-General Henrik Beer stated that over the previous three years the League had, on average, launched a disaster relief appeal every fortnight. He spoke also of the Development Programme (accident prevention, blood transfusion, environment protection, social welfare, community services, youth programmes).

Mr. Olof Stroh reported on the activities of the Indo-China Operational Group (IOG), of which he is the director. He emphasized the Group's projects, pointing out that they had been planned in consultation with the National Societies and authorities of the beneficiary countries. The total cost of the programme was estimated at 110 million Swiss francs. There was a shortfall of 60 million Swiss francs, half of which was wanted immediately for emergency assistance operations.

The Commission approved the report, congratulated its authors, and decided to refer it to the plenary meeting.

Mr. Kai Warras, chairman of the joint committee for the reappraisal of the role of the Red Cross, and Mr. D. D. Tansley, director of the reappraisal, submitted a report on the progress of the study. National Societies were encouraged to make known their views on the root of the problem.

The League Secretary-General informed the commission that forty-eight National Societies had submitted reports on their activities, which were of great interest.

After presenting the report of the Standing Commission, of which she was chairman, Lady Limerick submitted a draft resolution on the revision of National Society Statutes, providing for ICRC and League intervention if changes incompatible with Red Cross principles were introduced by the National Societies. After amendment, the draft was unanimously approved.

A draft resolution laying down Red Cross disaster relief principles and rules was also adopted unanimously.

Mr. Frank N. Berkol, United Nations Co-ordinator for Disaster Relief, gave an account of the events which led to the setting up of the United Nations Office of the Co-ordinator for Disaster Relief in 1971. He then referred to the close co-operation which, from the outset, had been established between his Office and the Red Cross, and which had been maintained in the course of emergency situations, both organizations being necessary today on a world scale, and each complementing the other.

Mr. Rogers, representing the World Meteorological Organization, and Mr. Marks, representing UNICEF, both described how their organizations and the Red Cross co-operated.

Mr. Warras then reviewed the various aspects of relief operations in armed conflict.

In connection with relief aims and methods, the Norwegian Red Cross reported on the international seminar which, at Gol (Norway) in August 1972, dealt with relief to civilian population in time of armed conflict. The same Society also submitted a resolution which, after slight amendment, was approved.

Two further resolutions were adopted unanimously: one concerned the promotion of the Red Cross image through modern mass media, the other the Red Cross as a factor in world peace.

*The Report on ICRC Activities was introduced by an address which was read out to the General Commission during its author's*

*absence, Mr. Roger Gallopin, President of the Executive Board. We give the text hereunder :*

I shall confine myself to sketching briefly the broad outlines of our operations since 1969. As you will see, the same major operations have still been absorbing the bulk of ICRC efforts.

The ICRC has pursued its activities in the particularly difficult context of Indo-China, visiting those prisoners of war to whom it could gain access and bringing relief to conflict victims. Shortly before the ceasefire—and in agreement with the League—it set up an “Indo-China Operational Group”, whose special report has been submitted for your consideration. This report will also be the subject of comments by Mr. Olof Stroh, Secretary-General of the Swedish Red Cross, who was selected by the ICRC and the League to direct the Group.

The Asian sub-continent has also been the theatre of an admittedly shorter but no less dramatic conflict in terms of its human consequences. During the war—and with the agreement of all parties—the ICRC was able to create at Dacca two neutral zones as places of asylum for people who felt themselves directly threatened. In collaboration with the League and the National Societies of the countries concerned, it provided large-scale relief to the victims of the conflict, sheltering them from famine and from the rigours of the monsoon. Above all, it concerned itself with the fate of some 100,000 prisoners of war taken during the conflict; it visited them, gave them messages from their families and is now organizing their repatriation. In collaboration with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the Protecting Power, it is also organizing the repatriation of Bengalis resident in Pakistan and of Pakistanis residing in Bangladesh.

The ICRC has also been active in other regions of the world. In Europe, several missions have had to be sent to Northern Ireland. In Africa, the ICRC is supplying considerable amounts of aid to populations, visiting prisoners and repatriating military and civilian personnel, in Uganda, Burundi and Southern Africa. In Latin America, our delegates are regularly visiting thousands of political detainees, while the recent events in Chile have required the sending of a large ICRC mission to visit prisoners jailed following the coup d'état, to provide the necessary aid, and particularly to ensure the observance of the universally recognized humanitarian principles.

In the Middle East, the crisis flared up again after several

years. During those years, the ICRC carried out numerous visits to prisoners of war and civilian internees, repatriated a number of them and ensured the communication of messages between them and their families. It reunited dispersed families and did its utmost to assist the civilian populations in territories under Israeli control. Since the recent developments of the Israeli-Arab conflict, it has strengthened its delegations so as to be in a position to carry out its role as a neutral intermediary with a view to ensuring the application of the Geneva Conventions. It has already done a great deal, although it is still too early to assess its achievements.

This brief survey of our activities will give you an idea of what we have been able to do, and also of what we have had to leave undone.

If victims have not been protected as effectively as they should have been, and if it has not been possible to reach some of them, it has been because of difficulties which the ICRC has not been able entirely to overcome and which have to be understood if their root causes are to be grasped. I believe that, for all of us, this is a subject for reflexion which we should tackle squarely.

These then are the conditions under which the ICRC, as a specifically neutral body appointed to act as intermediary in time of conflict, has had to undertake its duties.

Already twenty-four years have elapsed since the last diplomatic conference at which the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 were signed. Twenty-four years during which, alas, armed conflicts have steadily increased, with the appearance of ever more lethal weapons. And during this quarter of a century the very nature of the conflicts has changed in that we are confronted by more and more frequent internal conflicts where, in practice and in law, ICRC action is possible only if it is accepted by the parties concerned.

Next spring a further diplomatic conference will be held to enable all governments to study the additional protocols to the Geneva Conventions which should make it possible to strengthen and extend the protection to be given to war victims in both internal and international conflicts.

However, in addition to the texts which may be adopted—and which we hope to see adopted—there must emerge a conviction and a common willingness which alone will make the commitments undertaken a reality.

For the essential basis of humanitarian action is, of course, the implementation by all the protagonists of the letter and the spirit of the provisions of the Conventions. For the ICRC this means,

above all, immediate freedom of access for its delegates to all victims and the possibility of securing for them the protection and help which they need.

However, in fulfilling this function entrusted to it by the international community, the ICRC finds itself all too often knocking at the doors of those who won't hear, with the responsible authorities denying that the provisions of the Conventions are applicable and invoking, either implicitly or explicitly, their national laws concerning public order; this in effect produces a conflict between the political and military requirements of the State and the welfare of the human being.

Governments cannot take advantage of the sovereignty of the State to give themselves the right to interpret the Geneva Conventions in their own fashion. They may not require their adversaries to give a wide application to humanitarian law, whereas they hold to a very restricted interpretation of the responsibilities falling to them. The Geneva Conventions are not negotiable. As opposed to commercial treaties, they allow no clause of reciprocity. The humanitarian Conventions are official commitments by which States bind themselves unilaterally, each one vis-à-vis all the others, to respect in all circumstances the principles they have recognized as vital.

It is not acceptable either that, on the basis of that same sovereignty, States try to conceal conflicts within their frontiers so as to elude the obligations they have agreed, nor may they under the pretext of military requirements refuse to give humanitarian assistance to the foe *hors de combat*, wounded or held prisoner in their hands. In this case, reasons of State make the defenceless man a hostage and very often an object of political bargaining.

In the context of internal conflicts, States may not interpret the intervention of the ICRC and the assistance it offers them as interference in their internal affairs. The International Committee then appeals to them on the basis of the fundamental principle of the Red Cross, namely the principle of humanity which imposes equal assistance for both friend and foe.

Yet the ICRC does not fail to recognize the requirements imposed on the authorities by the maintenance of order and security. It raises its voice against the excesses of State sovereignty when the wounded, the prisoners and non-combatant civilians are deliberately deprived of Red Cross assistance or when they are subjected to a scarcely disguised form of the law of retaliation.

There is another kind of pressure on the ICRC which makes its position especially difficult: belligerents' efforts to make it bear responsibility to issue protests or denounce violations alleged—moreover often quite justifiably—by a party to the conflict vis-à-vis his adversary.

However the ICRC, as has already been announced very often, cannot assume the mantle of a judge and still less of a prosecutor of humanity. If it can communicate protests it cannot regard them as its own, otherwise it would lose all credit and authority to exercise its specific function of protecting all those who are in the hands of their enemies, in a spirit of complete neutrality. Active neutrality is a form of taking sides as the ICRC sets humanity against the unavoidable partiality of the belligerents. Its neutrality is a means of action in giving relief as is its sole aim.

On the basis of what has just been said it can be understood that in the extremely tense situation of a conflict a humane group and its leaders try to attract into their camp all possible forces, including the Red Cross as it also is a force.

However, those who try to make the Red Cross a war ally and not a factor of peace would divide and paralyse it. Those who wish the ICRC to relinquish its impartiality would prevent it from playing its specific role. If it abandoned its neutrality and its independence, it would no longer be in a position to ensure—in all conflicts of whatever nature—fair assistance for all the victims in the spirit of the Red Cross.

Beyond State sovereignty, there is another sovereignty, namely humanitarian sovereignty, which those who suffer are entitled to claim. It is on the basis of that sovereignty that the ICRC appeals to all States, just as it does to all Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies, to all those who are at war or fight wherever they may be, so that its mission will be understood and so that it can fulfil its vocation of bringing people together, in particular at times when they are separated by conflicts.

All the legal or political obstacles which can be set against the fulfilment of this mission will only succeed in increasing mistrust, tension and hatred between peoples, whereas the work of the Red Cross is a work for peace.

May this XXII<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and the forthcoming Diplomatic Conference of which I spoke earlier give us the opportunity of developing this work for peace. The objective is important: to extend the protection to be accorded

to victims, strengthen, reaffirm and ensure the application of humanitarian law. This is a noble task calling for the co-operation of all. A task which belongs to the Red Cross and one with which each of us will want to be associated.

\* \* \*

#### COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

The Commission elected as its chairman Mr. Jean Pictet, ICRC Vice-President, and as its vice-chairmen Mr. D. Miller (Canada), Mr. G. Herczeg (Hungary), Mr. A. Jembere (Ethiopia) and Mr. S. Ijas (Indonesia). Its rapporteur was Mr. H. Knitel (Austria).

The commission's work was particularly important; the consideration of the two draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, the basic documents for the Diplomatic Conference convened by the Swiss Government and which will start its meeting on 20 February 1974 with a view to finalizing the two drafts. That was why this commission was the one with the largest attendance. The work it completed did not fall short of the hopes that had been placed in it. On the main topics, understanding was soon reached and the team spirit which prevailed throughout the proceedings permitted almost unanimous adoption of its resolutions.

As is generally known, the ICRC and indeed the whole Red Cross movement has been active in this new phase of the long-term work of developing and reaffirming humanitarian law since 1968. The XXIst International Conference at Istanbul in 1969 issued a unanimous resolution requesting the ICRC to draw up rules of law with expert assistance. Numerous experts from governments and National Societies made contributions in a constructive spirit. So, too, did the United Nations; and the rules were produced.

In a lengthy resolution, the Teheran Conference stated its opinion that the draft Additional Protocols were a sound basis for discussion at the Diplomatic Conference, and urged all governments to take part in that Conference and "do all in their power by co-operation and fruitful negotiations to secure the widest and swiftest adoption of the two Additional Protocols".

In view of the limited time available, the Commission was unable to discuss thoroughly all proposals which delegations put forward. It decided to take note of them and include them in a special report which the ICRC would submit to the Diplomatic Conference.

The Commission also considered the question of the so-called "conventional" weapons likely to cause avoidable suffering or indiscriminate destruction. The same progress has not been achieved on this topic as on the draft Protocols. It has however been covered in a recent report, drawn up by the ICRC after work by a group of experts, which describes these weapons and their effects. In this connection, one Conference resolution asks the Diplomatic Conference at its session in 1974 to begin the study of the question of banning or restricting such weapons. It also invites the ICRC to call a meeting of government experts in the same year to study the question in depth.

The Commission's agenda also included the traditional item "The Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions". Those Conventions have saved millions of lives and can save millions more provided they are known to those who must apply them. The dissemination of knowledge of the Conventions, too long neglected, has in the last few years made real progress in many countries. It is vital that the example be followed and that such teaching should become widespread, and in the first place among the armed forces and youth. A resolution of the Conference requested the ICRC to continue giving its support to the efforts of governments and National Societies in that sphere, particularly by publishing informative material adapted to the sectors to be reached, by advising National Societies on plans of action, and by organizing seminars and even a special conference.

The Commission Chairman closed the meeting by underlining that a great step forward had been taken, in the realm of law, at Teheran. "Of course," he said, "there are still many points on which opinions vary but nothing is impossible if all concerned show goodwill and take steps to meet one another. Humanitarian law is one of the few fields where men can meet whatever their convictions and speak the same language . . . Governments now shoulder a heavy responsibility to reach decisions and undertake commitments. Let them do so in the sight of the world which expects so much of them . . . Much has been said about national sovereignty but let us not forget that the supreme sovereignty is



that of the law to which States are subject as much as individuals. . . . Let us hope that Teheran is the beginning of a new dawn in the development of humanitarian law and in the better application of existing Conventions.”

\*

#### COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICES <sup>1</sup>

The Commission on Community Services elected Mr. Fernando E. V. Sison (Philippines) as its chairman, Dame Anne Bryans (United Kingdom), Dr. Nikola Georgievski (Yugoslavia) and Mr. Bokolombe B. Bompese (Zaire) as its three vice-chairmen and Dr. Takar Cheniti (Tunisia) as its rapporteur.

After listening to two introductory presentations, the Commission split up into several groups, while a synthesis of the various discussions was made in a working group and plenary meetings. This method of work was designed to enable everyone to participate actively in the discussions and to facilitate the exchange of information gained by National Red Cross Societies from past experience.

The Commission, after having noted the Report on the action taken on the resolutions of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, turned its attention to the following points:

- Red Cross contribution to national plans for development and provision of Community Services: health (including blood transfusion), social welfare and youth.
- The Red Cross and environment problems.

The accounts and discussions centered on the following four subjects:

1. Assessing community needs;
2. Establishing criteria to help National Societies to select the community services they can undertake;
3. Youth participation in planning, implementing and evaluating community services;
4. Ways and means of providing National Societies with adequate finance and qualified staff.

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<sup>1</sup> This account is based on the Commission's programme, documents, final report and resolutions.

The Commission heard a brief statement by Dr. Taba, WHO Regional Director for the Middle East, who said that WHO activities were linked to those of the Red Cross, which was the first non-governmental organization to have worked in co-operation with WHO since 1948, particularly in the context of the protection and improvement of the human environment, conflicts and disaster relief. A number of National Red Cross Societies have benefited, too, from WHO assistance provided for developing blood transfusion services and the creation of centres for the preparation of blood plasma.

The Kenya Red Cross Society presented a document on the requests for assistance made by Governments to voluntary agencies with a view to establishing community needs.

Four informal reports, illustrated with films and slides, presented by each of the working groups, showed the diversity of the problems facing the various National Societies.

(A) American National Red Cross: *collective participation in community action programmes.*

The American National Red Cross prepares guidelines for certain programmes, but allows local chapters to settle details for the formulation of programmes of activities in the fields of physical, psychological and social well-being, on the basis of their own local needs and with the participation of all sections of the community. Young people are represented in local and national committees. Descriptions of three types of programme motivating community action were given:

- (a) measures to avoid emergency situations (first aid, life-saving at sea, home assistance, etc.);
  - (b) measures to prepare the population for unavoidable emergency situations (e.g., disaster preparedness, shelters, stores depots, etc.);
  - (c) action during critical situations.
- (B) The Colombian Red Cross presented a paper on an urban experiment it made in the *Kennedy City Family Assistance Centre in Bogotá*, in which it emphasized the efforts undertaken to solve the various problems raised by a particular social group.
- (C) The Red Lion and Sun Society described its *Relief-Rehabilitation Project and Predisaster Planning* for the southern coastal

region of Iran, which is frequently exposed to floods or earthquakes. The stricken areas are difficult to reach by the existing roads. After a disaster, the population, numbering over a million inhabitants, cannot deal with problems of relief-rehabilitation. Basic training alone is not enough. In addition, the National Society, with government support, acts to provide drinking water, medical services and food, rather than financial aid, for the victims.

- (D) The Australian Red Cross rouses public awareness of the *need to prevent accidents* and stresses the importance of co-operation and of the co-ordination of efforts with all other bodies in both public and private sectors, nationally and locally. Teaching young people and the public on the whole to be more conscious of accident prevention is carried out at home, during play, in industry and through road safety measures.

The Yugoslav Red Cross paper entitled *Criteria to help National Red Cross Societies to select the community services they can undertake* and the working groups made it possible to examine the four most significant subjects submitted to the plenary meetings.

The following are, very briefly summarized, the four subjects mentioned in the final report.

1. *Assessing community needs.*—The Commission stressed the need for National Societies to co-operate closely in the fields of health and social development with both governmental bodies and voluntary agencies engaged in these activities. This co-operation facilitates the establishment of priorities and the utilization to the best advantage of all too often limited resources. The complementary character of Red Cross action as compared with governmental programmes was brought out.

2. *Criteria to help National Societies to select the community services they can undertake.*—The Commission recognized that it was difficult to establish criteria which would be valid throughout the world. It was stressed that the Red Cross was expected both to provide traditional services and to set up new programmes to meet the needs of a society developing at an ever-increasing pace. National Societies were, however, well placed to carry out pioneering work in detecting certain new needs and initiating measures to meet them, preparatory to government action. It was found that needs are in

relation to the degree of evolution of a country and to the socio-economic structure of its community.

3. *Youth participation in community services.*—The Junior Red Cross representatives pleaded in favour of the importance of the integration of young people in all aspects of Red Cross work, from planning to decision-making, implementation and evaluation.

It was stressed that the education received by young people to-day fitted them to assume increasing responsibilities and facilitated their integration into the whole range of National Society programmes. It was suggested that the concept of including the 18-25-years age-group in the membership of Red Cross Youth should be reviewed, since in most countries 18-year-olds were already capable of fully assuming such responsibilities.

4. *Financial means and qualified staff.*—In very many countries, the Red Cross was making a fresh approach in the light of new needs. This made it more necessary than ever to enlist the active participation of people of all conditions and ages. The Commission stressed the need for the proper training of these volunteers and of the permanent staff of National Societies, and welcomed the training programmes already set up at the national and international levels. It was suggested that National Societies should strive to project to their public and governments a proper Red Cross image designed to win their co-operation, facilitate project financing, and secure for each National Society its proper place in national development plans.

The Commission adopted three resolutions. The first calls on Governments to involve National Societies at all levels in the planning of and participation in “country programming” and to take into account Red Cross experience when drawing up national development plans; the second deals with environmental protection and improvement and with Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies contribution in that field; and the third with blood transfusion and the principle of non-remunerated blood donation.

The work of the Commission on Community Services was a proof of the fact that National Societies, in addition to performing their customary tasks in the medico-social field, were conscious of their pioneering role which led them to co-operate with people of

all age-groups and to participate, in agreement with their government, in the development of their own country.

\* \* \*

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED  
BY THE  
XXIInd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE RED CROSS**

**I**

**Activities of the International Committee  
of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

The XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having noted the work which the ICRC has been carrying out on behalf of the victims of conflicts which, unhappily, have continued or which have broken out since the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting, however, with concern, that this work encounters all too often insurmountable obstacles resulting in particular from a restrictive interpretation by certain belligerents of the humanitarian obligations incumbent on them under the terms of the Geneva Conventions,

recalling, in this connection, that these Conventions to provide essential protection for the human person constitute solemn commitments vis-à-vis the whole international community, and that the application of the provisions contained therein cannot therefore be subject to reciprocity or to political or military considerations,

considering it essential that Red Cross relief action, carried out by the ICRC in co-operation with National Societies and their

Federation, the League of Red Cross Societies, should be speedily available to the victims of every kind of armed conflict in order effectively to relieve human suffering and ensure respect for the human person in all circumstances, which are the fundamental aims of the Red Cross,

requests the ICRC, acting in the name of the community of nations and the whole Red Cross movement, to persevere in its efforts to continue to provide essential humanitarian assistance to victims of conflicts,

invites the authorities concerned to permit in all circumstances the accomplishment of the work of the ICRC without subjecting it to conditions or demands which are alien to the spirit and the letter of the Geneva Conventions, of which the provisions are binding on all and are not conditional upon reciprocity.

## II

### **Financing of the ICRC**

#### 1

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the report submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC,

recalling the very important task which is being performed by the ICRC and which, in view of the international situation, is constantly increasing,

requests all National Red Cross Societies to support the permanent activities of the ICRC through regular contributions,

urges all Governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions to support more systematically and substantially the regular financing of the ICRC,

decides to increase the number of members of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC from 7 to 9,

appoints the National Societies of the following countries as members of the Commission: Czechoslovakia, France, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Poland and Senegal, who have accepted the renewal of their mandate, and names those of Colombia, Federal Republic of Germany and Japan as new members of the Commission,

elects Mr. Rahimtoola of the Pakistan Red Cross Society as the new Chairman of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC,

thanks the Commission for the work it has done and expresses its gratitude to Mr. van Emben, who has assumed the task of Chairman for many years.

## 2

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

appoints Mr. Henrik Beer and Mr. Bengt Bergman representatives of the International Conference on the Council of the Foundation for the ICRC.

## III

### **Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention in the Middle East**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having considered the Report of the ICRC on its Activities from 1969 to 1972, the provisional Report on its Activities from 1 January to 30 June 1973, and its Annual Report for 1972,

deeply concerned about the immense sufferings of the civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East, resulting from the non-application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949 relative to the protection of civilians in time of war,

conscious of the fact that the Parties to the Geneva Conventions have undertaken, not only to respect, but also to ensure respect for the Conventions in all circumstances,

recalling Resolution No. X of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross on the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the action taken by the ICRC in pursuance of that Resolution,

expresses once more its deep concern for the situation of the civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East,

affirms the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the territories occupied as a result of the June 1967 conflict,

calls upon the Parties concerned to acknowledge and to comply with their obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention,

requests the authorities concerned to fulfil their humanitarian obligations in facilitating the return of people to their homes and their reintegration into their communities,

expresses its thanks to the ICRC and its delegates to the Middle East for their continuous efforts in that region.

#### IV

##### **Application of the other Geneva Conventions in the Middle East**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having already approved a resolution calling for the total application by the Parties to the Middle East conflict of the Fourth Geneva Convention,

calls with equal urgency for the total application by the same Parties of all the other Geneva Conventions, and in particular of those provisions which relate to the treatment of prisoners of war, the sick and wounded and civilian victims of the conflict.

#### V

##### **The Missing and Dead in Armed Conflicts**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

recognizing that one of the tragic consequences of armed



conflicts is a lack of information on persons missing, killed or deceased in captivity,

complying with the humanitarian traditions of the Red Cross, and with the spirit of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

calls on Parties to armed conflicts, during hostilities and after cessation of hostilities, to help locate and care for the graves of the dead, to facilitate the disinterment and return of remains, and to provide information about those who are missing in action,

further calls on Parties to armed conflicts to co-operate with Protecting Powers, with the ICRC and its Central Tracing Agency, and with such other appropriate bodies as may be established for this purpose, and in particular National Red Cross Societies, to accomplish the humanitarian mission of accounting for the dead and missing, including those belonging to third countries not Parties to the armed conflict.

## VI

### **Review of Statutes of National Societies**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that National Societies are recognized by the ICRC and admitted to the League after verification that their Statutes fulfil the conditions for recognition and admission, as laid down by international meetings of the Red Cross,

considering that National Societies shall always comply with the basic principles of the Red Cross movement in order to retain valid membership of the International Red Cross,

considering further that if the Statutes of a National Society cease to be in conformity with the conditions for recognition and admission, that Society would lay itself open to question,

decides that any Society wishing to change its Statutes on points relating to the conditions for recognition and admission will submit such changes to the ICRC and the League, and will take their recommendations into account.

## VII

### **Co-operation with UNDRO**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

following with interest the activities of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) established following Resolution No. 2816 (XXVI) of the General Assembly of the United Nations for the purpose of mobilizing, directing and co-ordinating relief assistance in cases of disaster,

recognizing the role of Governmental and non-governmental agencies and in particular of the League of Red Cross Societies and the ICRC in disaster relief and disaster relief preparedness,

aware of the active involvement of the UNDRO in the preparation and co-ordination of these activities,

recalling Resolution No. XXV adopted by the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross held in Istanbul in 1969,

noting with satisfaction the good co-operation already existing between the UNDRO and notably the League of Red Cross Societies,

requests the League of Red Cross Societies, the ICRC and National Societies to maintain and further strengthen their association with the UNDRO with a view to effecting closer co-operation and co-ordination in this field.

## VIII

### **Relief Actions**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the report from the Conference Workshop on the aims and methods of relief operations in armed conflicts, held in Norway in August 1973,

referring to Resolution No. XXVI entitled "Declaration of principles for international humanitarian relief to the civilian population in disaster situations" approved at the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross in Istanbul in 1969,

mindful of the need to improve relief operations in cases of catastrophe, whether natural or man-made,

stressing the need to extend advance preparations for this purpose,

emphasizing that the primary responsibility rests with the national and local authorities of the stricken country or territory,

emphasizing also the responsibility of the international community to be prepared for assistance when this is called for by such national and local authorities,

recommends:

1. at the national and local levels that preparations for relief be made through national and local emergency plans, that arrangements be made for the establishment of revolving stocks and the planning for the mobilization of supplies, that national and local personnel be trained to take part in relief operations, that preparations be made in the fields of medicine and of food and nutrition, including the collection of advance information on the public health situation and on food and dietary habits;
2. at the international level that an appropriate disaster relief plan be drawn up, that international centres for education and training of selected relief personnel be set up, that UNDRO and the International Red Cross, co-operating with other international agencies, should be the focal point in the main co-ordination of relief, including in particular the advance collection of information generally,

requests the ICRC and the League to follow up the above recommendations.

## IX

### **Promotion of the Red Cross Image throughout the World**

The XXII<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun movement is, through its principles and action, entirely at the service of suffering and needy humanity,

believing that the aims of the Red Cross movement can be achieved only with the active support of individuals and peoples,

considering that humanity's needs, both in time of peace and in time of war, require the mobilization on a permanent basis not only of Red Cross forces and resources but also those of the whole community,

considering further that better knowledge of Red Cross principles and action will promote its development and ability to serve, and that public acceptance of such principles and action has a decisive influence on the movement's future,

observing the constantly increasing importance of the mass media in this connection as a means of reaching and educating the public,

notes with satisfaction the increasingly close co-operation between the ICRC, the League and National Societies in the promotion of a Red Cross public image which, whilst reflecting the respective roles of each, portrays the movement's unity,

urges National Societies to increase their efforts in the field of information and public relations, on which the development of their human and material resources, and hence of their activities, depends to an increasing degree,

appeals to Governments and to all other public institutions to support by every means at their disposal the efforts of National Societies in the fields of publicity and information and, whenever it is in their power to do so, to promote access by the Red Cross—at both national and international level—to the mass media, for

the furtherance of humanitarian activities in periods of crisis and in normal times.

## X

### **Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

The XXIIInd International Conference to the Red Cross,

conscious of the absolute necessity to safeguard the Principles and Declarations of the Red Cross, and to maintain its image in the eyes of the public,

desirous of interpreting through action the humanitarian principles proclaimed by International Conferences of the Red Cross,

aware of the fact that the Red Cross can be a major contributing factor to world peace,

condemns all forms of racism and racial discrimination at all levels and which might occur within National Red Cross Societies,

congratulates the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies and its Chairman for having set up a working group to study “ The Role of the Red Cross in the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination ”,

invites the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and National Red Cross Societies, to implement the Plan of Action as approved by the Board of Governors of the League and by the Council of Delegates.

## XI

### **The Red Cross as a Factor in World Peace**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

convinced that for the implementation of the tasks, entrusted to the Red Cross, of protecting human health and life, of preventing human suffering, of establishing mutual understanding, friendship,

co-operation and lasting peace among nations, it is necessary further to develop and strengthen the role of the International Red Cross as a factor in world peace,

expressing its deep concern with the sufferings of peoples in a number of areas of the world where armed conflicts, occupation of territories, racial discrimination and genocide still take place,

welcoming the efforts and processes aimed at the relaxation of tension and the strengthening of world peace,

declares its support of the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations in strengthening peace in the world,

calls upon Governments to be guided, in international relations, by the ideals of peace, equality, and good neighbour policy based on the principles of peaceful co-existence,

appeals to Governments to continue their efforts to achieve agreements on arms race limitation and disarmament,

recommends that the issue of further development and the strengthening of the role of the International Red Cross as a factor of world peace be included in the study on the reappraisal of the role of the Red Cross,

calls upon the ICRC, the League and the National Societies to intensify their actions for peace, human rights and basic freedoms and to undertake in co-operation with Governments further actions for wider dissemination among the public of the humanitarian ideas of the Red Cross.

## XII

### **Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

convinced that, in a world torn by violence, there is a pressing need for a widespread dissemination of an instruction in the Geneva Conventions, as an expression of basic Red Cross principles, and hence a factor for peace,

aware that, owing to its educational nature, such dissemination and instruction is particularly important among the armed forces and youth,

recalling the resolutions on the subject of dissemination adopted by previous International Conferences of the Red Cross and in particular Resolution No. XXI of the XXth International Conference held at Vienna in 1965,

noting with gratification the work already accomplished in the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions by some Governments, numerous National Societies and the ICRC,

calls upon Governments and National Societies to intensify their efforts with a view, on the one hand, to making known to the population as a whole the basic principles of the Red Cross and international humanitarian law by all effective means available to competent authorities at all levels, and on the other hand, to imparting clear concepts regarding the Geneva Conventions to specialized spheres such as the armed forces, civil administrations, institutes of higher learning, the medical and para-medical professions, etc.,

appeals to Governments and National Societies to inform the ICRC regularly of their achievements and their projects, in order that it may centralize all information on the dissemination of, and instruction in, the Geneva Conventions in the world,

requests the ICRC to support the efforts of Governments and National Societies in their dissemination of and instruction in the Geneva Conventions by:

- (a) preparing information material suited to the spheres and areas it is proposed to reach (specialized and popular publications in various languages, posters, slides and films),
- (b) advising National Societies who so wish regarding the establishment of their plans of action in this field,
- (c) systematically making the achievements of Governments and National Societies in the dissemination of, and the instruction in, the Geneva Conventions known in its reports and publications,

(d) itself organizing, or participating in, seminars for the training of specialists in international humanitarian law,

asks the ICRC also to examine the desirability and possibility of convening an *ad hoc* Conference on dissemination and instruction of the Geneva Conventions which would enable Governments and National Societies to compare their respective experiences and devise new methods of action,

request Governments and National Societies to co-operate fully with the ICRC in its efforts to bring about wider dissemination of, and effective instruction in, the Geneva Conventions,

thanks the ICRC for its action, since the XXIst International Conference, in giving the dissemination of, and instruction in, the Geneva Conventions a fresh impetus and for the support it has lent National Societies and Governments.

### XIII

#### **Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

conscious that armed conflicts continue to cause untold human suffering and material devastation,

convinced that the Parties to all such conflicts need humanitarian rules designed to reduce the suffering as much as possible and to increase in the same way the protection of non-combatants and civilian objects,

aware that many modern means and methods of warfare have added to the need for a reaffirmation and development of present laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts,

confirming the dedication to these questions of the International Conferences of the Red Cross,

recalling, in particular, Resolution No. XIII of the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross,



noting, also, the successive resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the item "Human Rights in Armed Conflicts", the latest being Resolution 3032 (XXVII), adopted on 18 December 1972,

welcoming the Draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, prepared by the ICRC after thorough consultations with Government experts, particularly during conferences in Geneva in 1971 and 1972,

welcoming, further, the report presented by the ICRC on Weapons that may cause Unnecessary Suffering or have Indiscriminate Effects,

welcoming the decision of the Swiss Federal Council to convoke a Diplomatic Conference for the purpose of reaffirming and developing international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts,

considering that the Draft Additional Protocols offer an excellent basis for discussion at the Diplomatic Conference,

expresses appreciation to the ICRC for the extensive work it has performed,

urges all Governments to participate in the Diplomatic Conference,

urges the Diplomatic Conference to consider inviting national liberation movements recognized by regional intergovernmental organizations to participate in its work as observers in accordance with United Nations practice,

appeals to all Governments to recognize their own long-term interests in humanitarian rules, which respond to the urgent needs to alleviate the suffering brought about by modern armed conflicts and the need to protect non-combatants in such conflicts and, for this purpose, to make use of this Diplomatic Conference to achieve substantial humanitarian gains,

appeals to all the participants at the Diplomatic Conference to be held in Geneva to do all in their power by co-operation and fruitful negotiations to secure the widest and swiftest adoption of the two Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, as instruments of international humanitarian law effective on a universal basis.

## XIV

### **Prohibition or Restriction of Use of Certain Weapons**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling that the right of Parties to a conflict to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited,

recalling, in particular, those rules of international law which prohibit the use of arms, projectiles or material likely to cause unnecessary suffering and those rules of international law which require the protection of civilians,

confirming the views expressed by the International Conferences of the Red Cross in Resolution No. XXVIII (1965) regarding the Protection of Civilian Populations against the Dangers of Indiscriminate Warfare, and Resolution No. XIV (1969) regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, by the International Conference on Human Rights in Teheran in Resolution XXIII (1968) regarding Human Rights in Armed Conflicts and by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 2932 (XXVII-1972) regarding Napalm and other Incendiary Weapons,

endorsing, in particular, the view expressed in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 2932 (XXVII) that the widespread use of many weapons and the emergence of new methods of warfare that cause unnecessary suffering or are indiscriminate call urgently for renewed efforts by Governments to seek, through legal means, the prohibition or restriction of the use of such weapons and of indiscriminate and cruel methods of warfare and, if possible, through measures of disarmament, the elimination of specific, especially cruel or indiscriminate, weapons,

noting that consistent with its work for the reaffirmation and development of humanitarian law the ICRC has continued to devote attention to the question of weapons which may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects,

welcomes the proposals which the ICRC is submitting to the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts for

rules concerning the prohibition of the use of weapons which are likely to cause unnecessary suffering and methods and means of combat which have indiscriminate effects,

welcomes further, the factual report elaborated by an international group of experts under the auspices of the ICRC on Weapons that May Cause Unnecessary Suffering or Have Indiscriminate Effects, covering, *inter alia*, high velocity projectiles, blast and fragmentation weapons, time-delay weapons and napalm and other incendiary weapons,

endorses the conclusion of the report that inter-governmental review and action is called for regarding specific types of weapons dealt with in the report,

urges the Diplomatic Conference—without prejudice to its work on the two Draft Protocols submitted by the ICRC—to begin consideration at its 1974 session of the question of the prohibition or restriction of the use of conventional weapons which may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects,

invites the ICRC to call in 1974 a conference of government experts to study in depth the question of prohibition or restriction of the use of conventional weapons which may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects and to transmit a report on the work of the conference to all Governments participating in the Diplomatic Conference with a view to assisting them in their further deliberations.

## XV

### **Reinforcement in the Additional Protocols of the role of National Societies**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the views of the Board of Governors of the League, which held its XXXIIInd Session in Teheran in November 1973, to the effect that the two Draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions do not make sufficient reference to the role

which must fall to National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies as well as to their Federation in humanitarian activities for armed conflict victims,

having examined the two Draft Additional Protocols and taken note of the comments made during the debates,

requests the Diplomatic Conference to be held in Geneva in 1974, to introduce the appropriate provisions to strengthen the role and facilitate the humanitarian activities of National Societies and of their Federation, for example by adding

1. a general provision inviting the Parties to a conflict to grant National Societies all the means and help required to enable them to carry out all their humanitarian activities on behalf of the victims of armed conflicts,
2. special provisions covering the personnel, services and programmes National Societies are in a position to provide in order to make sure that the objectives of the Geneva Conventions and of the Protocols are attained.

## XVI

### **Community Services**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

aware of and appreciating the existing co-operation and working relationships between National Societies, their Governments, the UN Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations,

noting that National Red Cross Societies act as auxiliaries to the public authorities, that they have the mission to co-operate in the fields of health and social development at all levels of the community, and that they can call on the help of large numbers of volunteers,

considering the need better to co-ordinate all available assistance for more meaningful results of the services provided by National Societies,

recommends

1. that National Societies call on Governments to give continuous attention to the UN Resolutions 1580 (L) of the Economic and Social Council and 2626 of the UN General Assembly and to involve National Societies at all levels in the planning and participation in “country programming”,
2. that National Societies seek through their Government closer co-operation and support of the UN Development Programme and Specialized Agencies such as WHO, ILO, UNESCO, FAO, WFP and UNICEF, thus strengthening collaboration between Governments, UN Agencies and the Red Cross,
3. that all Governments give every possible support to the Red Cross to increase its potential of assisting in the Social Development of its country,
4. that Governments take into account Red Cross experience when drawing up National Development Plans so as to ensure co-ordinated efforts and positive results for all concerned,
5. that those international and non-governmental organizations and foundations, which are able to do so, assist the Red Cross in carrying out its Development Programme with the participation of all, thus expressing their solidarity with peoples of all ages in all countries.

## XVII

### **Environment**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the Report by the Working Party of the League of Red Cross Societies concerning the Red Cross and the Protection of the Human Environment and also of the resolution on this subject adopted by the League's Board of Governors at its XXXIIInd Session,

recognizes that all aspects of environmental protection and improvement constitute one of the major problems of our time,

declares that the Red Cross is directly concerned by this problem since the physical and mental health of man is largely conditioned by the quality of the environment,

recommends that at national level Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies develop and plan their activities in terms of the protection and improvement of the environment, in harmony with the plans of Government authorities,

emphasizes finally that the struggle against threats to the environment must also be pursued at the international level,

invites the Red Cross to co-operate at that level in the development of means of contributing to the protection of the environment.

## XVIII

### **Blood Transfusion**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

taking note that almost half of the National Societies conduct a blood service today, 14 of whom supply their nations' complete blood service needs,

recalling that the International Red Cross Conference in 1936, 1948, 1952 and 1957 adopted resolutions commending the development of blood services to all National Societies and, beginning with the 1948 resolution, also enunciating the principle of non-remunerated blood donation,

observing with satisfaction that the governing bodies of the League of Red Cross Societies have steadily encouraged National Societies through resolutions adopted in 1946, 1950, 1952, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1963 and 1966 to stimulate the development of blood services based on the principle of non-remunerated blood donation,

desiring that every nation benefit from the major medical and scientific advances achieved in recent years in blood research, technology and programming,

believing, with influential opinion around the world, that the non-remunerated donation of blood in a nationwide non-commer-

cial blood service produces the safest medical therapy and strengthens a nation's social structure through the value it places on this freely chosen individual act of humanitarian service,

affirms that a service based on voluntary blood donation, motivated by humanitarian principles, is the safest and most effective way of supplying blood needs,

urges the Governments of all nations to adopt the highest standards in providing a safe blood service to their citizens, and to formulate those standards on the concept of non-remunerated blood donation,

recommends to each National Society and its Government that they undertake a strong combined effort to attain the humanitarian objectives of a total national blood service based on the broad voluntary participation of the people.

## XIX

### **Exchange of Prisoners of War in the Middle East**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received with great satisfaction the welcome news concerning the exchange of prisoners of war in the Middle East,

sends its greetings to those responsible and its wishes for a complete success in this operation.

## DECISIONS OF THE XXII<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

### I

#### **Modification of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief**

The XXII<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross,

decides that articles 15, 17, 19, 20, 25 and 27 of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief, adopted by the XXI<sup>st</sup> International Conference (Resolution No. XXIV) be replaced by the following versions:

#### *Article 15—Requests for Assistance and Appeal (3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph)*

The League can, however, take the initiative to offer special assistance, even though the National Society has not asked for it. The National Society will consider such offers with urgency and goodwill, bearing in mind the spirit in which they are made.

#### *Article 17—Information on Assistance*

When, as a result of a League appeal or as a result of mutual agreement or other special circumstances, a National Society gives assistance to the Society of a stricken country it will immediately inform the League. Such information will contain the amount of gifts in cash and all available data on gifts in kind, including quantity, value and means of transportation.



### *Article 19—League Liaison Officer*

When a National Society asks for international assistance the League will assign to this National Society a liaison officer or a team of delegates, whose name or names will be communicated to it as rapidly as possible and whose number will depend on the magnitude of the disaster.

The chief delegate will be responsible for the judicious and effective utilization of the team of experts with a view to helping the National Society with such activities as the reception, warehousing and distribution of relief supplies received from abroad, information, communication and with all other activities that will contribute to the effectiveness both of the relief operation itself, undertaken by the National Society involved, and of the assistance of sister Societies.

All staff assigned by the League will have the task of assisting the National Society and not of taking over its basic responsibilities.

The chief delegate should be given all facilities to send to the League by the most rapid means all the information likely to enable it to back up its appeals to National Societies and inform them as fully as possible on the needs resulting from the disaster and then on the use made of the relief received. He should advise the National Society concerned of the measures taken and foreseen both by the League and the National Societies which are giving it their support.

### *Article 20—Use made of Gifts*

A National Society which benefits from the assistance of sister Societies will give the League liaison officer the opportunity to see on the spot the use made of the gifts received.

### *Article 20A—Accounting and Auditing Requirements (new)*

A National Society which receives cash donations from sister Societies and the League shall submit to the latter half-yearly statements of the use of such funds, until such time as a final statement can be presented, showing in detail the origin of cash donations and their use over the whole period. These interim and final statements shall wherever possible be submitted within three months of the end of the period to which they relate.

The final statements shall be examined and reported on either by Public Accountants, or by Auditors recognized by the Government of the country concerned. In relief actions continuing for more than one year such examination and reporting shall also be carried out annually, until the relief action is completed.

For donations in kind, statements showing the origin and use of such contributions shall be submitted to the League each half year and also finally at the end of the relief action; no examination or reporting by auditors is required.

*Article 25—How to use Gifts (2nd paragraph)*

A beneficiary Society may in no event use cash gifts received to cover its administrative expenses included in its ordinary budget, nor may a beneficiary Society transfer cash gifts donated to it to another organization or group for use by that organization or group.

*Article 27—Transmission and Forwarding of Relief*

Assistance donated by a National Society to a stricken country will always be sent through Red Cross channels, either direct to the National Society or through the intermediary of the League. Funds sent to the League will be specifically earmarked for the disaster for which they are contributed and will either be sent to the National Society of the stricken country or, with its concurrence, utilized by the League according to the needs of the relief operation.

National Societies and the League may agree to transmit to a stricken country relief from non-Red Cross sources. In such cases, however, the relief will be utilized by the National Society or, with its concurrence, by the League in conformity with the present rules.

## II

### **Approval of Accounts**

The XXII<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross,

approves the accounts submitted to it of the Shôken, the Augusta and the Florence Nightingale Medal Funds.

### III

#### **Election of Members of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,  
elects the following persons:

Mr. George Aitken (Canada), Mrs. Farid Issa-el-Khoury (Lebanon), Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris (Australia), Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh (United Kingdom), and Dr. Nadejda Troyan (USSR)

to membership of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross until the next International Conference.

### IV

#### **Place and date of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,  
takes note of the offers submitted by the National Societies of the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and Romania,  
asks the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross to decide the place and date of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross.

### V

#### **Votes of Thanks**

The XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,  
presents to Their Imperial Majesties the Shahanshah Aryamehr and the Shahbanou the profound respect of all delegates, and, to His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah the expression of its gratitude

for having personally inaugurated the Conference and for his noble words reflecting his keen interest in the Red Cross and stressing four vital points which constructively guided the proceedings of the Conference in the humanitarian spirit of the Red Cross movement; his address was an exemplary inspiration for the work of the Conference,

thanks Her Imperial Majesty the Shahbanou, who has always set an example of dedication in the cause of charity, for having honoured the Conference by her presence at the opening ceremony,

thanks Her Imperial Highness Princess Shams Pahlvi, President of the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, for her constant and unstinting efforts and support in favour of the International Red Cross, and for the cordial welcome which she extended to the delegates,

conveys to the Government of Iran its gratitude for all the facilities which it provided for the organization of the Conference, and particularly thanks His Excellency the Prime Minister, Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, for honouring the Conference by his presence and for his highly appreciated message,

expresses its appreciation to the Iranian Red Lion and Sun for everything that it has done to ensure the smooth running of the Conference, and for the reception given to the delegates, to its Vice-President, Mr. Sharif-Emami, for the masterly way in which he presided over the discussions, to its Secretary General, M. Majid Majidi, who assumed the difficult task of the general secretariat of the Conference, to Mr. Hossein Khatibi, its Director General, and his staff who dealt scrupulously with every detail of the organization,

requests its Chairman to convey to the President of the Chamber of Deputies its thanks for enabling the Conference to hold its discussions in a building which was ideally suited for this purpose,

thanks the Iranian Centre for International Conferences for having so successfully attended to the material organization of the Conference, and both Iranian and foreign staff whose work and devotion were a contributory factor in its success,

expresses its profound appreciation to all the representatives of the Iranian and world press for bringing the results of the Conferences to the attention of the world, and thereby promoting the Red Cross image.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED  
BY THE  
COUNCIL OF DELEGATES**

**Action in the Struggle against Racism  
and Racial Discrimination**

The Council of Delegates,

considering that the Red Cross is based on the principles of respect for the dignity and equality of all human beings and may not make any distinction as to nationality, race, religion, social condition and political leanings, that racism and racial discrimination constitute a serious violation of basic human rights and a degradation of human dignity and of equality amongst all human beings, that they impede friendly and peaceful relations between nations and endanger peace for which the Red Cross works,

deeming that racism and racial discrimination also constitute violation of the Red Cross principle of impartiality,

recalling the provisions of the Geneva Conventions forbidding any discrimination of a racial character, the resolutions of International Conferences of the Red Cross condemning racism and racial discrimination and Resolution No. 33 adopted by the XXXIst Session of the Board of Governors of the League (Mexico City, 1971),

taking into account the United Nations Declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and the Inter-

national Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination of 21 December 1965,

alarmed by the manifestations of racism and racial discrimination in certain regions of the world,

convinced that it is necessary for the Red Cross to engage still more actively in the struggle for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, thus joining in the struggle in the world and so contributing to the implementation of the programmes of the “Decade of action to combat racial discrimination” to be launched on 10 December 1973,

after examining the proposed Red Cross plan of action adopted by the Board of Governors of the League at its XXXIst Session, adopts this plan of action,

invites all National Societies, the League and the ICRC to comply with the principles stated in this plan of action and to commit themselves fully to its implementation.

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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## REAFFIRMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW APPLICABLE IN ARMED CONFLICTS

### DRAFT ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS

#### COMMENTARY

*In our October issue, we gave our readers a summary of the draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, prepared by the ICRC. Those Protocols are to be the basis of the work of the Diplomatic Conference which will start its meeting in Geneva on 20 February 1974, and to which all States parties to the Geneva Conventions have been invited.*

*In November, the drafts were examined by the National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies which met in Teheran for the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross which, unanimously, approved them in its Resolution No. XIII, the text of which is given elsewhere in this issue.*

*The International Committee of the Red Cross has now published a Commentary on the Protocols, the Introduction to which is quoted hereunder.*<sup>1</sup>

The introduction, which appears at the beginning of the two draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, published by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in June 1973 and sent by the Swiss Government to the States parties to those Conventions and to Member States of the

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<sup>1</sup> *Draft Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949—Commentary*, ICRC, Geneva, Oct. 1973, 176 pp. Available in English, French and Spanish from ICRC Documents Service. Price Sw. fr. 20.—.

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

United Nations, in view of the Diplomatic Conference convened by the Swiss Government scheduled to open in Geneva on 20 February 1974, summarizes as follows the work undertaken for the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts:

“ In September 1969, the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, at Istanbul, unanimously adopted Resolution XIII requesting the ICRC actively to pursue its efforts with a view to drafting as soon as possible concrete rules which would supplement existing international humanitarian law, and to invite government experts to meet for consultations with the ICRC on such proposals.

On the basis of that Resolution, the ICRC convened for 24 May 1971 the ‘ Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts ’, to which it invited some forty governments to delegate experts. As it was unable to cover all its agenda, the meeting requested the convening of a second session open to all States parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. This second session took place in Geneva from 3 May to 3 June 1972 and was attended by more than four hundred experts delegated by seventy-seven governments. This large attendance, the sustained work carried out in several commissions, and the constructive atmosphere which prevailed throughout the proceedings gave a decisive impetus to the undertaking.

With those meetings in mind, the ICRC had drawn up a series of volumes on the matters to be discussed. Those volumes, with the reports on the two sessions of the Conference of Government Experts, still constitute the basic documentary material.

In addition to the two sessions of the Conference, the ICRC arranged a number of consultative meetings with individuals and groups. In particular, in March 1971 at The Hague and in March 1972 at Vienna, it submitted its drafts to Red Cross experts in order to have their opinions. Similarly, in November 1971, it consulted the representatives of non-governmental organizations.

The ICRC also remained in close liaison with the United Nations and followed attentively the work of the General Assembly in this field. At each of its sessions, since 1968, the General Assembly has



adopted resolutions on 'respect for human rights in armed conflicts'. This was a powerful encouragement to the ICRC to continue its work.

Each time, the United Nations Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly very detailed reports containing useful suggestions. In addition, representatives of the United Nations Secretary-General actively participated in the two sessions of the Conference of Government Experts convened by the ICRC.

Today the ICRC is able to present the result of several years' joint effort, in the form of two draft Additional Protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions; these drafts are given in the pages which follow. Their sole aim is to provide an adequate basis for discussion at the forthcoming Diplomatic Conference convened by the Swiss Federal Council, the Government of the State depositary of the Geneva Conventions. They will also be submitted to the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross which will meet in Teheran in November 1973. "

To ease the task of those who are to study the aforementioned draft Protocols, the ICRC has thought it useful to establish a *Commentary*, which it herewith takes pleasure in submitting. Being succinct, it does not embody prefatory remarks, nor does it claim to interpret the texts. To be fully conversant with the subject, reference will need to be made to the two *Reports on the Work of the Conference of Government Experts*, which contain, *inter alia*, the various proposals put forward by the experts; reference should also be made to the eight volumes of basic documents established by the ICRC in 1971.

The *Commentary* contains what seemed essential to an understanding of the provisions submitted. It is, above all, a statement of reasons. As a general rule, it also indicates the source of the article or paragraph concerned. Where appropriate, it shows in what manner they differ from the previous texts.

Some experts having expressed the wish that a more thorough study of the relation between the draft Protocols and other instruments of positive law be made, we would point out that the matter of the relation of the draft Protocols to the 1949 Conventions is dealt with in the Preamble and in Article 1 of both draft Protocols,

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

and suggest that reference should be made to the commentary thereon. The relation to the Hague Conventions and to customary international law is explained in the introduction to Part VI of Draft Protocol I, and in the commentary on Articles 2 (c) and (d), 32 (4), 33 to 53, 64, 66, 70 and 77 of that draft.

As regards the field of application of the two drafts, it is laid down in Article 1 of Draft Protocol I and Articles 1 and 2 of Draft Protocol II. Broadly speaking, the substance of Draft Protocol II consists in provisions which have been drawn from the Conventions and from Draft Protocol I, but adapted to the specific conditions of non-international armed conflicts, and hence in most cases simplified.

It should be recalled that, apart from some provisions of a general nature, the ICRC has not included in its drafts any rules governing atomic, bacteriological and chemical weapons. These weapons have either been the subject of international agreements such as the Geneva Protocol of 1925 or of discussions within inter-governmental organizations. This, however, does not imply that the ICRC or the Red Cross as a whole is not interested in a problem whose humanitarian aspects are of paramount importance.

Also, these so-called conventional weapons, which may nevertheless cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects, are still not covered by the draft Protocols. Yet they are also a matter of concern for the ICRC, which, with the co-operation of some experts, has carried out a study in which such weapons and their effects are described. A detailed report on the subject has recently been sent to all Governments, which will need to decide on the action that should be taken and can refer it to any bodies they may consider appropriate. The ICRC considers that, should Governments wish to bring up at the Diplomatic Conference the question of the restriction or even prohibition of some of these weapons, the Conference could devote a general discussion to the question. A working group could then be set up which would submit to the Conference its findings and a plan on the procedure for further study and the handling of the problem.

The ICRC trusts that the present *Commentary* may prove helpful to all those attending the Diplomatic Conference and to some extent ease the difficult yet vital task that lies before them.

*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***Middle East****ICRC proposes commissions of enquiry**

In view of the serious breaches of the Geneva Conventions of which the Governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt and of the Syrian Arab Republic on the one hand, and the Government of Israel on the other, have accused one another, the ICRC, in a note to the three Governments on 12 December, declared its willingness to lend its good offices with a view to setting up, under its own auspices or those of some other organization approved by the parties, an ad hoc procedure for the constitution of bipartite commissions of enquiry into the alleged violations. The commissions' terms of reference would be to investigate the materiality of facts of the alleged violations or interpret Convention provisions which were the subject of disagreement between the parties. The commissions' conclusions would be communicated to the Governments concerned.

Each commission would have three members: one appointed by each of the parties, the third by the ICRC or any other organization approved by the parties, chosen from prominent citizens of neutral States. If the ICRC were called upon to nominate the neutral member, it would choose a person outside the ICRC, in keeping with its practice and principles, for the ICRC itself does not conduct enquiries, this not being its task laid down in the Geneva Conventions.

**Relief**

Further relief supplies, provided by various National Societies and the ICRC itself, were sent between 5 and 15 December to the Arab Republic of Egypt (11 tons of medicaments, 4.5 tons of clothing and one ambulance) and the Syrian Arab Republic (4.2 tons

of medicaments, 4,370 blankets and 430 tents), while two Land Rovers were sent to Beirut and Tel Aviv, respectively.

By that time, the financial contributions which the ICRC had received from various governments amounted to 5.2 million Swiss francs. Further contributions had been promised.

### North Africa

From 22 November to 8 December, the ICRC regional delegate for North Africa was on a mission which took him to *Mauritania* and *Morocco*. The talks which he had in those two countries centered on the participation of African States in the 1974 Diplomatic Conference and the dissemination of humanitarian principles, particularly among schoolchildren and in the army.

In *Mauritania* the ICRC regional delegate was granted an audience by H.E. Moktar Ould Daddah, Head of State. He also met the Ministers of the Interior and Defence, and conferred with Madame Moktar Ould Daddah, Honorary President of the Mauritanian Red Crescent, and with officers of that Society.

Although only recently recognized, the Mauritanian Red Crescent has already carried out considerable activities. The ICRC delegate's visit to its installations gave him an insight into the effective work carried out all over the country by the energetic members of that Society. A relief operation for the drought victims includes dispensaries, school canteens, the administration of medicaments, and the distribution of milk for children and high protein food to the stricken population.

The ICRC regional delegate then went to *Morocco*, where he was granted an audience by H.R.H. Princess Lalla Malika, President of the Moroccan Red Crescent. He also met members of the Society's Central Committee whose new headquarters and installations he visited in Rabat. At government level, he had talks chiefly on the subject of international humanitarian law with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Health and with the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Defence.

### Tanzania

Between 5 and 15 November, an ICRC regional delegate for East Africa in Tanzania had numerous contacts with the authorities,

the National Red Cross Society, and with representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the various liberation movements. In the course of the talks, such matters were discussed as the application of international humanitarian law in new forms of conflict, particularly the treatment and status of prisoners taken on either side and medical assistance for the liberation movements. The delegate also studied with the Tanzania Red Cross ways and means of setting up an office for the tracing of the many refugees with whom that Society is concerned.

## **Zambia**

An ICRC regional delegate for East Africa was in Zambia from 27 November to 17 December, and there made a round of visits to places of detention. At Ndola he visited Kansendji Prison, the Remand Prison at Lusaka, and the Livingstone prison. As usual in those three prisons, he was given an opportunity to talk privately with the detainees.

During his stay, the regional delegate had various talks with government authorities and the Red Cross Society, chiefly about humanitarian, legal and practical problems arising out of new forms of conflict. Lastly, the delegate handed medical supplies to the ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union), COREMO (Mozambique Revolutionary Committee) and FROLIZI (Zimbabwe Liberation Front) liberation movements. He conferred with representatives of the MPLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola), ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) and SWAPO (South West African People's Organization).

## **Chile**

*Visits to places of detention.*—During the month of November, the ICRC delegates in Chile made 55 visits to 46 places of detention in different parts of the country. They saw more than 7,500 detainees there and, as usual, were able to talk to them without witnesses. During the visits, the delegates distributed medicaments, medical supplies, mattresses, blankets and other relief supplies to a value of more than 90,000 Swiss francs. Further visits to places of detention have started in southern and central Chile.

To rationalize the work, two sub-delegations were opened on 17 December, one at Temuco in the south and the other at Antofagasta in the north, each manned by two delegates.

*Mission of an ICRC member.*—From 29 November to 5 December, Mr. M. A. Naville, a member and former President of the ICRC, and Mr. S. Nessi, ICRC Delegate-General for Latin America, were in Chile. At Santiago, Mr. Naville met prominent government officials and Chilean Red Cross leaders. The talks centered mainly on ICRC activities and prospects of development, and on co-operation with the National Societies, particularly in providing relief for detainees and their families.

## Laos

The ICRC delegate in Laos visited Chinaimo prison, Vientiane, on 18 October. He saw forty-seven detainees with whom he was, as usual, able to talk privately. At the end of the visit, the delegate handed out relief supplies consisting mainly of toilet articles.

## Asian sub-continent

The repatriation of prisoners of war and the transfer of civilians to and from the three countries of the Asian sub-continent continues under the auspices of the ICRC and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. By 15 December, 23,626 prisoners of war and 11,045 civilian internees had been repatriated to Pakistan. From Bangladesh, 28,015 non-locals had left for Pakistan, whilst in the other direction 38,624 Bengali servicemen and their families and 2,568 Bengali civilians had left Pakistan for Bangladesh.

While these movements were going on, ICRC delegations in the three countries continued their customary visits to these various categories of persons and their relief distributions to the most needy.

In *India*, more than 23,600 Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees, in six groups of camps, were visited in November by ICRC delegates. In the same month, relief material (sports articles, glasses, books, etc.) was distributed. In addition, the ICRC remitted to individual Pakistani prisoners of war, on behalf of their Govern-

ment, small sums of money totalling 56,000 Swiss francs as a contribution to the festivities at the end of Ramadan. A gift of 12 tons of powdered milk from the Swiss Government to the ICRC was split equally between the Indian Red Cross Society and the Central Relief Committee of India, for distribution in the camps.

In *Pakistan*, the ICRC continued visiting Bengali detainees. From 24 November to 3 December, its delegates visited nine prisons in the North West Province and six in Sind Province; in all they saw 139 Bengali detainees.

### **Philippines**

During the second half of November, the ICRC regional delegate for Asia and another delegate visited various places of detention in the Philippines.

They went to fourteen detention and rehabilitation centres in Manila and the islands of Mindanao and Cebu, where they saw altogether some 2,500 detainees. Everywhere they were able to talk to detainees of their choice without any witnesses.

Following these visits, the delegates handed the Philippine National Red Cross a sum of about 6,000 Swiss francs for the purchase of blankets, medicaments and other essential relief items which are to be distributed in the places of detention visited by the ICRC.

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*IN GENEVA***Honorary member of the ICRC**

In the course of a meeting on 6 December 1973, the Assembly of the International Committee took note of Mr. Dietrich Schindler's resignation and conferred honorary membership upon him.

Mr. Schindler was first co-opted to the ICRC in 1961, from which date he regularly and competently followed the institution's work. He teaches at Zurich University, like his great-uncle Max Huber before him, and since his appointment he has participated in the work of the Legal Commission.

It was on his proposal that a commission was set up, within the Committee itself, to study the principles, activities, methods and organization of the ICRC. He was the instigator who, with several colleagues, made possible a very useful investigation of the Red Cross principles and methods.

Mr. Schindler is the author of a study on the Geneva Conventions which was published in 1965 in "l'Annuaire suisse de droit international" under the title *Die Anwendung der Genfer Rotkreuzabkommen seit 1949*, and of an interesting volume, which he has just published in co-operation with Mr. Jiri Toman, entitled "The Laws of Armed Conflicts"; this is an anthology of all the laws of armed conflicts.

The International Committee expressed its gratitude for Mr. Schindler's invaluable contribution to the work of the Red Cross in theory and in law. It is pleased also to be able to continue to rely on his co-operation.

**A discussion at the ICRC**

On 23 December, before leaving Geneva where he had attended the peace conference on the Middle East, H. E. Mr. Abba Eban, Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by H. E. Mr. Mordecai Kidron, Ambassador and Political Adviser to the Ministry



of Foreign Affairs, met the President of the Executive Board of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Mr. Roger Gallopin, and some of his closest aides, at ICRC headquarters. During the meeting, Mr. Eban expressed concern about the lack of information on Israeli military personnel missing in action since the October hostilities. He voiced his appreciation of the ICRC's efforts and expressed the hope that the families of those missing would soon receive the news they were eagerly awaiting.

### **Inter Arma Caritas**

The third edition of the book, in which, under this title, the ICRC describes its extensive humanitarian work throughout the world during the Second World War, has just been issued, in both English and French versions.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Inter Arma Caritas* (135 pages) may be obtained from the ICRC Documentation Division, Geneva. Price Sw. Fr. 8.—.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS  
ADOPTED 21 JUNE 1973

ART. 1. — *International Committee of the Red Cross*

1. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

2. It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.<sup>1</sup>

ART. 2. — *Legal Status*

As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — *Headquarters and Emblem*

The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be *Inter arma caritas*.

ART. 4. — *Role*

1. The special role of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental principles of the Red Cross as proclaimed by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;
- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;

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<sup>1</sup> The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to ensure the operation of the Central Information Agencies provided for in the Geneva Conventions;
- (f) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (g) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (h) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

2. The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its role as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any question requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — *Membership of the ICRC*

The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. It shall comprise fifteen to twenty-five members.

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## **TWO ICRC PUBLICATIONS**

The ICRC, working on the preparation of the Draft Protocols which are to be submitted to the Diplomatic Conference scheduled to take place early in 1974, convened two sessions of a Conference of Government Experts, on each of which a report has been issued. These two reports, bearing the same title, may be obtained from the ICRC:

"Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts"—First session, Geneva, 1971.

### **Report on the Work of the Conference**

Geneva, 1971: 8vo, 121 pp. . . . . Sw. Fr. 15.—

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"Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts"—Second session, Geneva, 1972.

### **Report on the Work of the Conference**

Geneva, 1972: 8vo, vol. I 209 pp. { Sw. Fr. 25.—  
vol. II 116 pp. { the 2 volumes



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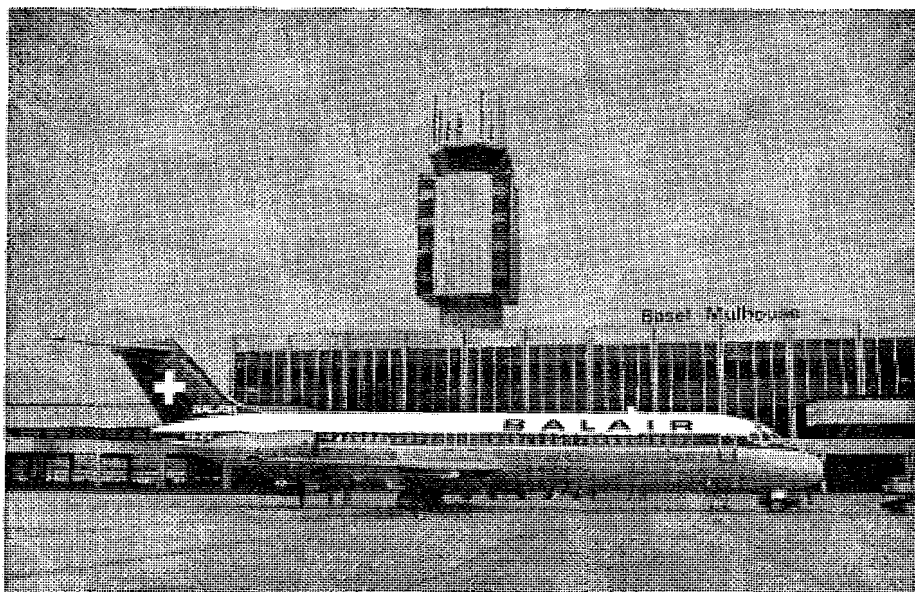
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- AFGHANISTAN** — Afghan Red Crescent, Puli Artan, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA** — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga e Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA** — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINA** — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA** — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne 3000*.
- AUSTRIA** — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna 4*.
- BAHRAIN** — Bahrain Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 882, *Manama*.
- BANGLADESH** — Bangladesh Red Cross Society, Amin Court Building, Motijheel Commercial Area, *Dacca 2*.
- BELGIUM** — Belgian Red Cross, 98 Chaussée de Vleurgat, *1050 Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA** — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simón Bolívar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA** — Botswana Red Cross Society, Independence Avenue, P.O. Box 485, *Gaborone*.
- BRAZIL** — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA** — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S. S. Biruzov, *Sofia 27*.
- BURMA** — Burma Red Cross, 42 Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI** — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMEROON** — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA** — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street East, *Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 1H6*.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** — Central African Red Cross, avenue Mobutu, B.P. 1428, *Bangui*.
- CHILE** — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa María 0150, Correo 21, Casilla 246V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA** — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E.*
- COLOMBIA** — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65, Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- COSTA RICA** — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA** — Cuban Red Cross, Calle 23 201 esq. N. Vedado, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA** — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague 1*.
- DAHOMEY** — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto Novo*.
- DENMARK** — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, DK-1471 *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Juan Enrique Dunant, Ensanche Miraflores, Apartado Postal 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR** — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia 118, *Quito*.
- EGYPT** (Arab Republic of) — Egyptian Red Crescent Society, 34 rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- EL SALVADOR** — El Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente 21, *San Salvador*.
- ETHIOPIA** — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FIJI** — Fiji Red Cross Society, 193 Rodwell Road, P.O. Box 569, *Suva*.
- FINLAND** — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 14168, *00141 Helsinki 14*.
- FRANCE** — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin Bauchart, F-75384 *Paris, CEDEX 08*.
- GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** — German Red Cross of the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, DDR 801 *Dresden 1*.
- GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF** — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300, *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA** — Ghana Red Cross, National Headquarters, Ministries Annex A3, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREECE** — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA** — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3a Calle 8-40, Zona 1, *Ciudad de Guatemala*.
- GUYANA** — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI** — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS** — Honduran Red Cross, 1a Avenida entre 3a y 4a Calles, N° 313, *Comayagüela, D.C.*
- HUNGARY** — Hungarian Red Cross, V. Arany János utca 31, *Budapest V*. Mail Add.: *1367 Budapest 5*, Pf. 249.
- ICELAND** — Icelandic Red Cross, Öldugötu 4, Post Box 872, *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA** — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA** — Indonesian Red Cross, Djalán Abdul Muis 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN** — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Tehran*.
- IRAQ** — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND** — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY** — Italian Red Cross, 12 via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST** — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 2645, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA** — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN** — Japanese Red Cross, 1-1-5 Shiba Daimon, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo 105*.
- JORDAN** — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
- KENYA** — Kenya Red Cross Society, St John's Gate, P.O. Box 40712, *Nairobi*.
- KHMER REPUBLIC** — Khmer Red Cross, 17 Vithei Croix-Rouge khmère, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF** — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA, REPUBLIC OF** — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT** — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1359, *Kuwait*.
- LAOS** — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.

- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.
- LESOTHO — Lesotho Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 366, *Maseru*.
- LIBERIA — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, 107 Lynch Street, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN — Liechtenstein Red Cross, FL-9490 *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBOURG — Luxembourg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, C.P. 1806, *Luxembourg*.
- MALAGASY REPUBLIC — Red Cross Society of the Malagasy Republic, rue Clémenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
- MALAWI — Malawi Red Cross, Hall Road, *Blantyre* (P.O. Box 30080, Chichiri, *Blantyre* 3).
- MALAYSIA — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MALI — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, route de Koulikora, *Bamako*.
- MAURITANIA — Mauritanian Red Crescent Society, B.P. 344, Avenue Jamal Abdel Nasser, *Novakchott*.
- MEXICO — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional n° 1032, *México 10 D.F.*
- MONACO — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 boul. de Suisse, *Monte Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan Bator*.
- MOROCCO — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Benzakour, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tahachal, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsesgracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND — New Zealand Red Cross, Red Cross House, 14 Hill Street, *Wellington 1*. (P.O. Box 12-140, *Wellington North*).
- NICARAGUA — Nicaraguan Red Cross, *Managua, D.N.*
- NIGER — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Aketa Close, off St. Gregory Rd., Onikan, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*. Mail Add.: *Postboks 7034 H - Oslo 3*.
- PAKISTAN — Pakistan Red Cross, Dr Dawood Pota Road, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado Postal 668, Zona 1, *Panamá*.
- PARAGUAY — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle Andrés Barbero y Artigas 33, *Asunción*.
- PERU — Peruvian Red Cross, Jirón Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila D-406*.
- POLAND — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL — Portuguese Red Cross, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon 3*.
- ROMANIA — Red Cross of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SAN MARINO — San Marino Red Cross, Palais gouvernemental, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bld. Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6 Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SINGAPORE — Singapore Red Cross Society, 15, Penang Lane, *Singapore 9*.
- SOMALI REPUBLIC — Somali Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 937, *Mogadishu*.
- SOUTH AFRICA — South African Red Cross, Cor. Kruijs & Market Streets, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid 10*.
- SRI LANKA — Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, 106 Dharmapala Mawatha, *Colombo 7*.
- SUDAN — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWEDEN — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, S-114 51, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, B.P. 2699, *3001 Berne*.
- SYRIA (Syrian Arab Rep.) — Syrian Red Crescent, Bd Mahdi Ben Barake, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND — Thai Red Cross Society, Paribatra Building, Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO — Togolese Red Cross Society, 51, rue Boko Soga, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, Regional Community Park, Wrightson Road Extension, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*, Trinidad, West Indies.
- TUNISIA — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19 rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA — Uganda Red Cross, Nabunya Road, P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UNITED KINGDOM — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1X 7EJ*.
- UPPER VOLTA — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A. — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington, D.C. 20006*.
- U.S.S.R. — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Tcheremushkii I. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow B-36*.
- VENEZUELA — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68 rue Bà-Triệu, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM, REPUBLIC OF — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201 đường Hồng-Thập-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA — Red Cross of Yugoslavia, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- ZAIRE (Republic of) — Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, 41 av. de la Justice, B.P. 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- ZAMBIA — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R.W.1, 2838 Brentwood Drive, *Lusaka*.